MONTANA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Policy No. 007

JOINTLY FUNDED SIGNALIZATION PROJECTS

SCOPE: This policy will apply to the following:

1. Public at grade railroad crossings that are not eligible for crossing signals.
2. A public at grade railroad crossing that is currently eligible for grade crossing signals but is not high enough on the priority list to fund crossing signal installation in the immediate future.

POLICY

Nominating Process

1 The road authority, railroad or department may nominate a jointly funded public grade crossing signal project. Nominations shall be made in writing to the Chief, Traffic & Safety Bureau.

2 A maximum of four projects will be funded by the department per year. Projects will be funded on a first-come basis. No more than four projects will be funded in any calendar year, even if less than four projects were funded during the previous calendar year.

Funding

1 The department will pay for one half of the total project cost.

2 Others, including the road authority, communities, school districts, or railroad must assume financial responsibility for the remaining half of the cost of the project.

3 Department funds for signalization will come from funds used for signal circuitry improvements. Department funds for roadway improvements will come from other safety categories.

Scope of Projects

1. It is recommended, but not mandatory, that this type of signalization project should include a crossing closure associated with signalization.
2. Sight distance improvement, roadway alignment or other safety improvements can be funded by the projects.

Road Authority Responsibility: The road authority must accept responsibility for crash maintenance of the signals.

Implementation

1. Upon receiving a request, the Department will initiate a diagnostic review of the project site with the appropriate participants, to determine the scope of work.
2. Cost sharing by others for the project will be determined.
3. The department will initiate the railroad signal agreement.

HISTORY

Effective: 4/29/1998
Updated: 11/22/2002
2/10/2026